

Senate, House budgets out next week

The Senate is expected to announce its **proposed** 2009 supplemental operating budget and 2009-11 biennial budget at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, March 30. The House version is expected to be announced on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. Capital budgets are likely to be announced at the same time in both houses. Check www.tvw.org for live coverage.

Legislators urged to witness impacts of 'unprecedented' budget cuts

Legislators this week were invited to visit campuses in the months ahead and see first-hand how institutions are implementing the massive cuts expected in the 2009-11 biennial budget.

That suggestion was a response to the House Higher Education Committee's request this week for guidance on issues legislators should examine before the start of the 2010 legislative session.

While higher-education representatives suggested various issues for consideration, the near- and long-term impacts of budget cuts—expected in the 20-25 percent range—seemed foremost in many minds.

"I would really hope that you would use the interim to have intimate discussions with institutions on how they're coping with this, so together

we can understand how we're getting through this," said Larry Ganders, state government relations director for Washington State University. Ganders called the expected cuts "unprecedented."

Jan Ignash, HECB deputy director of policy, planning and research, said the concern is that the budget situation will lead to backward steps from which it could take years to recover. While addressing the immediate crisis, she said, it is important not to lose sight of the long-term goals in the state's Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education.

Ignash also said the System Design Plan, an effort led by the HECB that is now getting under way, will provide legislators next session with recommendations on how best to coordinate higher education resources over the next 20 years. "We have a momentum going—it would be a terrible tragedy to waste that," Ignash told the House committee.

Rep. Glenn Anderson, R-Fall City, suggested legislators embrace the opportunity presented by the budget situation to move beyond the status quo, to what comes next in higher education. "The alternative is to say how painful, how much it hurts, how much it's not the way it was—which is not an investment in the future," Anderson said.

Committee Chair Rep. Deb Wallace acknowledged the painful decisions that are coming, but said planning work already accomplished leaves the state well-positioned to move ahead when the crisis is over.

"The pain that we heard today—you can cut it, you can feel it."

— Rep. Deb Wallace, Chair
House Higher Education Committee

WASHINGTON HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

A weekly report on
higher education
during the 2009
Legislative Session



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Committee work
wrapping up

What's in the news:

News Tribune: [Senate budget would cut \\$500 million from higher education](#)

Seattle Times: [Budget-makers go to great pains to avoid the word "tax"](#)

The Herald: [Bill an overture to keep Boeing in Washington state](#)

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Senate committee approves labeling change in House financial aid rebranding bill

The Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee on Wednesday voted to require higher education institutions and the HECB to label state financial aid an Opportunity Pathway on student tuition billing statements, financial aid award letters, and other communications.

The version of E2SHB 2021 approved by the House calls financial aid an Opportunity Grant.

The Senate committee version also mandates the use of 12-point type when referring to the Opportunity Pathway.

Among other things, E2SHB also phases out the Educational Opportunity Grant (EOG) program over two years, although current recipients would continue to receive their awards until Aug. 1, 2011.

Subject to the budget, EOG funding is moved into the State Need Grant program. Enhanced State Need Grants, in addition to the base need grant, are provided for placebound students who have earned an associate degree, subject to appropriations specific to this group of students.

Other financial aid bills passed to the Rules or Ways and Means committees this week:

- **SSHB 1355:** Establishing the Opportunity Internship Program for high school students
- **SSB 5001:** Eliminating the matching fund requirement for the American Indian endowed scholarship program.
- **SSB 5044:** Changing work-study provisions.

Morell to lead House Democrats

Rep. Dawn Morrell, D-Puyallup, was elected chair of the House Democratic Caucus on Wednesday. The position has been vacant since the death of Rep. Bill Grant in January.

Morrell was elected caucus vice-chair last December, and has served as acting chair since the first day of the 2009 session.

[See more
financial aid
news](#)

Higher ed committees finish bill work before cutoff

The House Higher Education Committee and the Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee took action on a number of bills this week in advance of Monday's deadline to move bills out of policy committees.

Among the House bills recommended for passage by the Senate committee:

- **HB 1395:** Clarifying terms for workforce and economic development.
- **HB 1946:** Regarding higher education on line technology.
- **EHB 1986:** Authorizing a peer-mentoring pilot program at Western Washington University and a community or technical college.

The House committee recommended passage of a number of Senate higher education bills, including:

- **SB 5043:** Convening a work group to develop a single, coordinated student access portal for college information.
- **SB 5555:** Regarding lifelong learning accounts.
- **SB 5734:** Regarding tuition at institutions (HECB request legislation extending authority of institutions to set rates for non-resident and graduate tuition).

Next week's schedule:

- **Monday March 30:** Last day to read in committee reports from opposite house, except House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees
- **Monday March 30:** Senate Ways & Means Committee. Possible executive session, other business. 3:30 p.m., Senate Hearing Room 4.
- **Tuesday March 31:** House Education Appropriations Committee. Work session: Education appropriations section of PSB 1244 – making 2009-11 operating appropriations. House Hearing Room A.
- **Tuesday March 31:** House Ways & Means Committee. Public hearing: HB 1244 – Making 2009-11 operating appropriations. House Hearing Room A.
- **Saturday April 4:** House Ways & Means Committee. Possible public hearing: bills referred to committee. 9 a.m. House Hearing Room A.

WSU changes will preserve 4-H

An administrative reorganization will spare statewide 4-H programs from the budget ax at Washington State University.

Under the reorganization announced Monday, WSU Extension, which includes the 4-H program, will become part of the College of Agricultural, Human and Natural Resource Sciences.

"Throughout our considerations of budget cut scenarios, it has always been our intention to make certain that all children and young adults who currently benefit from 4-H programs will continue to do so," said Warwick M. Bayly, provost and executive vice president. "We will take larger cuts administratively to minimize any impact on 4-H programs."

In another budget-related organizational change, WSU announced that John Gardner, currently the university's vice president for economic development and extension, will oversee both economic development and global engagement. In the latter role, Gardner will lead the university's international programs office, contributing to the growing opportunities for global economic partnerships.

Bills delivered to Governor:

- [ESHB 1694](#) – Addressing fiscal matters for the 2007-2009 biennium.
- [ESSB 5460](#) – Reducing the administrative cost of state government during the 2007-2009 and 2009-2022 fiscal biennia.

Bills on Senate Floor:

- [SGA 9014](#) – Ethelda Burke
- [SGA 9041](#) - Earl Hale

Bills in Senate Rules:

- [HB 1312](#) - Eliminating the exclusive authority of the University of Washington and Washington State University to offer certain engineering courses.
- [SHB 1323](#) - Providing for coordination of workforce and economic development.
- [SHB 1328](#) – Allowing public technical colleges to offer degrees that prepare students to transfer to certain bachelor degree programs.

- [HB 1394](#) - Changing the timeline for the state comprehensive plan for workforce training and education.
- [HB 1395](#) - Clarifying terms for workforce and economic development.
- [HB 1474](#) – Changing border county opportunity program provisions.
- [HB 1640](#) – Modifying disclosure requirements for private investment information received by the University of Washington consolidated endowment fund.
- [SGA 9138](#)- Nita Rinehart

Bills in Senate Committee:

- [2SHB 1025](#) - Requiring disclosure of certain information relating to higher education course materials.
- [SHB 1128](#) – Changing innovation partnership zone provisions.
- [HB 1156](#) - Creating a preference in the alternative route certification program for veterans and National Guard members.
- [2SHB 1355](#) - Establishing the opportunity internship program for high school students.
- [HB 1487](#) - Regarding resident student classification.
- [HB 1675](#) – Changing the work experience provisions of the alternative route partnership grant program.
- [SHB 1841](#) – Adding a faculty member to the governing board of each four-year institution of higher education.
- [SHB 1898](#)- Setting priorities for higher education capital projects.
- [SHB 1914](#) – Authorizing the financing of higher education institutions' maintenance and operations through the use of certificates of participation.
- [SHB 1943](#) - Requiring recommendations for preparation and professional development for the early learning and school-age program workforce.
- [2SHB 1946](#) – Regarding higher education online technology.
- [EHB 1986](#) – Authorizing a peer mentoring pilot program at Western Washington University and a community or technical college.
- [E2SHB 2021](#) – Revitalizing student financial aid.
- [HB 2119](#)- Expanding dual credit opportunities.
- [E2SB 2227](#) – Enacting the evergreen jobs act.

Bills in House Rules:

- [HCR 4403](#) - Providing for the 2008-2018 state comprehensive plan for workforce training.
- [HCR 4404](#) – Commending the Higher Education Coordinating Board for its initiative to develop a higher education system plan.
- [SSB 5001](#) - Eliminating the matching fund requirement for the American Indian endowed scholarship program.
- [SSB 5043](#) - Convening a work group to develop a single, coordinated student access portal for college information.
- [SB 5173](#) - Authorizing the regional universities to confer honorary doctorate degrees.
- [SSCR 8404](#) – Providing for the 2008-18 state comprehensive plan for workforce training.

Bills in House Committee

- [SSB 5007](#) - Allowing public technical colleges to offer associate transfer degrees.
- [SSB 5044](#) - Changing work study provisions
- [SSB 5048](#) - Providing for coordination of workforce and economic development.
- [SSB 5172](#) – Establishing a University of Washington center for human rights.
- [SSB 5177](#) - Creating a global Asia institute within the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies.
- [SSB 5276](#) - Eliminating the exclusive authority of the University of Washington and Washington State University to offer certain engineering courses.
- [SB 5316](#) – Changing the timeline for the state comprehensive plan for workforce training and education.
- [SSB 5317](#) - Clarifying the terms for workforce and economic development.
- [SSB 5410](#) – Regarding the digital learning commons.
- [SB 5502](#) – Establishing the primary care physician conditional tuition waiver program.
- [SSB 5553](#) – Promoting economic development through promoting innovation and the commercialization of technologies.
- [SB 5554](#) – Regarding the job skills program.
- [ESSB 5555](#) – Regarding lifelong learning accounts.
- [SSB 5734](#) – Making certain current higher education tuition-setting practices permanent.
- [SSB 5776](#) – Regarding student fees, charges and assessments.
- [E2SSB 5809](#) – Revising unemployment compensation and workforce training provisions.
- [E2SSB 5941](#) - Regarding comprehensive education data improvement systems.